

Community Organizations

Many times, constituents have issues that cannot be resolved by a governmental agency. In those cases, community-based organizations may be able to provide them with assistance or services which might improve their situation. Community-based organizations are private, non-profit groups that exist to help individuals with specific problems. Often, these organizations can provide free or low cost legal assistance, counseling, referral services or direct benefits. Some organizations specialize in specific issue areas, or direct services to specific communities. Below is a list of some of the community-based organizations that serve the constituents of the 17th District.

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Civil Rights

- [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People \(NAACP\)](#)
- Works to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and intolerance.
- [La Raza Roundtable](#)
- A civil rights and advocacy organization for the Latino Community of Santa Clara County.
- [National Organization for Women](#)
- Taking action to bring women into full participation in American Society, exercising all

rights, responsibilities, and privileges in equal partnership with men.

- [Older Women's League](#)
- Advocating to improve the status and quality of life for women as they age.

- [League of Women Voters](#)
- Non-partisan citizen education and advocacy organization.

- [Japanese American Citizens League](#)
- The nation's oldest and largest Asian-American civil rights organization founded to address the issues of discrimination targeted at persons of Japanese ancestry living in the United States.

- [Council on American Islamic Relations](#)
- The Council on American Islamic Relations is a non-profit, grassroots membership organization established to promote a positive image of Islam and Muslims in America. It also provides resources to help Muslim Americans address violations of their civil rights.

- [American Civil Liberties Union of Santa Clara Valley](#)

Addresses a wide range Civil Liberties concerns within Santa Clara County.

Community Centers and Family Resources

- [Billy DeFrank Community Center](#)
- Developing diverse resources for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their allies.

- [The Bill Wilson Center](#)
- Strengthening the community by serving youth and families through counseling, education, housing, and advocacy.

- [The Phoenix Data Center](#)
- A non-profit that maintains an index of free and low income services offered throughout Santa Clara County and its neighboring communities.

- [InnVision of Santa Clara](#)
- Dedicated to empowering homeless and at-risk families and individuals through various levels of housing assistance, job training, healthcare, and many other programs.

- [Community Solutions for Children, Families & Individuals](#)
- A comprehensive spectrum of prevention, intervention, treatment, residential and housing services to the communities of South Santa Clara County, South San Jose and San Benito County.

- [Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County](#)
- Provides assistance with housing, employment, education, and emotional health regardless of immigration status, race, color, sexual orientation, age, gender, or disability.

- [Center for Employment Training](#)
- A non-profit organization providing job training opportunities to the neediest members of the community, including farm workers, high school drop-outs, welfare recipients, and immigrants.

- [Legal Aid Society](#)
- Provides free, civil legal services to low-income individuals in several areas including immigration, housing, domestic violence, and family law.

- [HelpScc.org](#)
- Searchable database of services in Santa Clara County including food, housing, health, children & youth, seniors, income, and emergency assistance.

- [Crosscultural Community Services](#) Center
- CCSC provides services to the youths and family in GED programs, truancy intervention, and youth employment aid.

- [John XXIII Multi-Service Center](#)
- Citizenship preparation, elder services, English language training, information/referrals,

legal services, mental health services, translator/interpreter services, case management, food distribution, senior nutrition, nurse managed health clinic, computer learning center, and Bi-Lingual Staff.

- [Jewish Family Services](#)
- Serves the Jewish community through the provision of social, vocational, senior, counseling and refugee resettlement services.

- [West Valley Community Services](#)
- In 2008, Cupertino Community Services became West Valley Community Services. WVCS has served the west valley communities of Cupertino, Los Gatos, West San Jose, Monte Sereno and Saratoga for over 35 years.

Domestic Violence Organizations

- [Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women](#)
- Oversees the Department of Justice's policy and legal issues concerning violence against women.

- [Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence](#)
- Provides prevention and intervention services to women, men, children, and teens in Santa Clara County.

- [Domestic Violence Project of Silicon Valley](#)
- Domestic violence awareness and education resource site

- [Support Network for Battered Women](#)
- Provides a 24-hour toll-free crisis line, an emergency shelter, counseling, information and referrals, support groups, safety planning, legal services and community education presentations.

- [United Way Silicon Valley](#)
- Helps to build capabilities for those in need in order to increase economic self-sufficiency in Santa Clara County.

Immigrant Resources

- [Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County](#)
- Provides assistance with housing, employment, education, and emotional health regardless of immigration status, race, color, sexual orientation, age, gender, or disability.

- [Center for Employment Training](#)
- A non-profit organization providing job training opportunities to the neediest members of the community, including farm workers, high school drop-outs, welfare recipients, and immigrants.

- [Immigrant Rights, Responsibilities and Resources Guidebook of Santa Clara County](#)
- A guide to civic rights and participation compiled by the County of Santa Clara and offered in 12 different languages including Khmer, Russian, and Amharic.

- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- A non-profit, international refugee resettlement assistance agency with an office in San Jose.

- [SIREN \(Services, Immigration Rights & Education Network\)](#)
- Provides direct services, community education, leadership development, and policy advocacy.

- [Legal Aid Society](#)
- Provides free, civil legal services to low-income individuals in several areas including immigration, housing, domestic violence, and family law.

- [Eastern European Service Agency](#)
- Services provided: citizenship preparation, counseling, cultural orientation, elder services, emergency assistance, english language training, family strengthening, information/referrals, legal services, mental health services, micro-enterprise training, translator/interpreter services, transportation and youth services.

Healthcare Organizations

- [Community Health Partnership](#)
 - An organization of nine primary care providers and two governmental agencies focused on maintaining and expanding access to the community clinic safety net for low income individuals.

- [The Health Trust](#)
 - A public benefit corporation that makes grants, provides services, and raises funds to solve community health issues.

- [Catholic Charities of San Jose](#)
 - Provides assistance with housing, employment, education, and emotional health regardless of immigration status, race, color, sexual orientation, age, gender, or disability.

- [Gardner Family Clinics](#)
 - Non-profit community health center network providing medical, dental, optometry, pharmacy, nutrition, health education, family planning and pre-natal services.

- [Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley](#)
 - A community clinic open to the public with a special mandate to treat the under-served Native American population of Santa Clara County.

- [Planned Parenthood Mar Monte](#)
 - Reproductive healthcare and family planning provider for men, women, and teens.

- [AACI Health Clinic](#)
 - Fully licensed community clinic, specializing in primary health care with an emphasis on the underserved APA community.

- [Pacific Free Clinic](#)
 - A clinic staffed by medical students and professional volunteers from Stanford University that provides free health care services for low-income adults who have had trouble accessing medical assistance. Assistance provided in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. Drop-in or appointments.

Latino Organizations

- [Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley](#)
- Philanthropic organization dedicated to educational achievement, economic advancement, and leadership development.

- [Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley](#)
- Civic leadership and development for Latinas in Silicon Valley.

- [Dolores Huerta Foundation](#)
- Community building and advocacy organization focused on fair and equal access to housing, education, healthcare, jobs, civic participation, and economic resources for disadvantaged communities.

- [Latinas Contra Cancer](#)
- Nonprofit community health organization formed to create an inclusive health care system that provides services to the unserved Latino population around issues of breast and other cancers.

- [Mexican-American Community Services Agency, Inc. \(MACSA\)](#)
- Providing housing, youth, education, family, and senior services to the Latino Community.

- [Mexican Heritage Corporation of San José](#)
- Operating group of the Mexican Heritage Plaza, aimed at developing and maintaining a center for Mexican cultural heritage in San Jose.

- [Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana \(MACLA\)](#)
- A contemporary arts space located in San Jose with programs aimed at creating interaction between traditional audiences and new art forms and artists .

- [Teatro Vision](#)
- Dedicated to performing plays that explore the Chicano/Latino experience.

- [La Raza Lawyers](#)
- An unincorporated association of Chicano and Latino attorneys dedicated to promoting diversity in the legal community of the greater Silicon Valley and supporting Latino law students with mentorship programs and scholarships.

Asian Pacific Islander American Organizations

- [Asian Law Alliance](#)
- Language appropriate, low-cost legal services for the APA community.
- [Asian Americans for Community Involvement \(AACI\)](#)
- Non-profit social services provider for the Asian American Community.
- [India Community Center](#)
- Promoting Indian culture and values through social, cultural, recreational and community programs.
- [Self Help for the Elderly](#)
- Provides social services and hot meals to the elderly in San Francisco and San Jose
- [Japanese American Museum of San Jose](#)
- An organization dedicated to collecting, preserving, and disseminating, the culture and history of Japanese Americans in the Santa Clara Valley.
- [Organization of Chinese Americans](#)
- a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.
- [Japanese American Citizens League](#)
- The nation's oldest and largest Asian-American civil rights organization founded to address the issues of discrimination targeted at persons of Japanese ancestry living in the United States.

- [Yu-ai Kai](#)
- Japanese American Community Senior Service organization offering senior day care, a lunch program, social services, a transportation program and other classes and trips.

- [Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute](#)
- A public interest incubator of civic leadership and training for the APA community.

- [Cambodian-American Resource Agency](#)
- To preserve and promote Cambodian culture and cultural awareness in the community.

- [International Children Assistance Network](#)
- ICAN2 is a non-profit organization that seeks to build strong family and community networks to aid children in Vietnam and in the Bay Area, to become successful in life.

- [Asian Immigrant Women's Advocates](#)
- AIWA is an organization that works on behalf of immigrant workers in the Bay Area to create better working environment and seeks to teach basic skills for immigrant workers concerning occupational health and safety.

- [Pacific Free Clinic](#)
- A clinic staffed by medical students and professional volunteers from Stanford University that provides free health care services for low-income adults who have had trouble accessing medical assistance. Assistance provided in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. Drop-in or appointments.

- [AARS- Asian-American Recovery Services](#)
- A variety of services provided for substance abuse, youth intervention, and HIV prevention services for the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. Language assistance provided in Vietnamese.

- [Vietnamese American Council](#)
- Provides senior services, ESL, after-school homework center for the community.

- [Vietnamese Voluntary Foundation](#)
- Refugee services, ESL, Citizenship classes, Senior services, after-school youth programs.

- [Southeast Asian Community Center](#)

Citizenship Preparation, Counseling, Cultural Orientation, Services, Emergency Assistance, Employment Services, English Language Services, Information/Referrals, Micro-Enterprise Training, Refugee Resettlement, Translator/Interpreter Services, Transportation, and Vocational Training.